



PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Application of ARMSTRONG, et al.

Application No.: 09 813,714

Examiner: Rudnick, D.

Date Filed: March 21, 2001

Group: 3746

For: NEW FOSSIL FUEL COMBINED CYCLE POWER SYSTEM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-70, without prejudice.

Please add substitute claims 71-102 as follows:

71. A method for converting fuel energy to electricity comprising the steps of:

converting a higher molecular weight gas into at least one mixed gas stream of lower average molecular weight including at least a first lower molecular weight gas and a second gas, said first and second gases being different gases;

supplying said mixed gas stream to at least one turbine to produce electricity;

dividing said mixed gas stream after said turbine into a first gas stream mainly comprising said first lower molecular weight gas and a second gas stream mainly comprising said second gas; and

electrochemically oxidizing said first gas stream and said second gas stream in separate fuel cells to produce electricity.